

APPROVED FOR RELEASE 1993
CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM

10 July 1963]

TO : Deputy Director for Coordination
Bureau of Intelligence and Research
Department of State

FROM : Deputy Director (Plans)

SUBJECT: OAS Attempt to Enlist the Cooperation of the United
States for its anti-de Gaulle Activities

1. In May 1961, an attempt was made in Lisbon, Portugal by two members of the Organisation de l'Armee Secrete (OAS) to enlist the support of the United States Government (specifically the Central Intelligence Agency, although the name was never actually pronounced) in their operations against de Gaulle. The attempt was made by Captain Jean Rene Souetre and Captain Querin (fn). Captain Souetre identified himself in the OAS organization as coordinator of external affairs serving under Major Pierre Sergeant. Souetre said that he foresaw the U. S. role as that of convincing other governments to cease suppressing OAS activities in their respective countries, and later perhaps providing monetary or material support. Souetre said he intended to provide some information about the activities of his organization which would be of interest to the U. S. In answer to a question on his status in Portugal, Souetre explained that he travelled on various passports, one of them being a U. S. passport. He claimed to be documented as a naturalized citizen from Martinique. He stated that he had U. S. contacts who could arrange documentation.

2. The CIA representative told Souetre that de Gaulle was the Chief of State of an old and respected ally of the U. S., and that the U. S. had absolutely no intention of working with any person or group against the duly-constituted government of France.

3. Available information from both press and official French sources indicates that Souetre is the name of a former French army captain who escaped from a detention camp in 1961. Subsequent to

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his escape he was alleged to have been involved in an assassination attempt against de Gaulle. Couetre was born on 15 October 1930 in the Gironde Department of France. Bergeat is also a former French army captain who has been reported to be the successor to ex-colonel Antoine Argoud, under whom he worked. Bergeat was born on 30 June 1936 at Sevre, France. Guerin is not identified.

4. The information on the demarcation of the two C.I.A. officers to the CIA representative has been made available to the American Ambassador at Lisbon.

5. The intelligence information on C.I.A. intentions which was provided by Couetre will be disseminated as C.I.B.-3/655,107.

cc: Federal Bureau of Investigation

CSCI-3/776,742

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The effect of this information will be upon the C.I.A. upon being received.

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